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Calendar No. 354.

61TH CONGRESS, {
1st Session. }

SENATE.

{ REPORT
No. 387. }

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LINCOLN FARM ASSOCIATION.

APRIL 26, 1916.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BECKHAM, from the Committee on the Library, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 8351.]

The Committee on the Library, to whom was referred H. R. 8351, having considered the same, now reports it to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass with the following amendments:

In line 5, page 1, strike out the words "President of the United States of America" and insert "Secretary of War."

In line 8, page 1, strike out the word "or" and insert the word "of."

In lines 9 of page 1 and 1 of page 2 insert "eleventh day of April, nineteen hundred and sixteen" instead of "the ——— day of ———, nineteen hundred and thirteen."

In line 23, page 2, strike out the words "President of the United States of America" and insert the words "Secretary of War."

In line 24, page 2, insert "eleventh day of April, nineteen hundred and sixteen," instead of "the ——— day of ———, nineteen hundred and thirteen."

The purpose of the act is to authorize the United States to accept as a gift not only the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born, but in addition thereto the farm upon which he was born; and also an endowment fund made up as follows: Forty-four thousand dollars (par value) city of Louisville, Ky., 4½ per cent bonds, due in 1951; \$2,000 (par value) city of Louisville, Ky., 3 per cent bonds. The present market value of these bonds is nearly \$50,000.

A magnificent memorial hall has been erected and incloses the cabin, which stands near the spring, where it stood when Lincoln was born.

On the farm is a substantial residence and other buildings, occupied by the superintendent of the farm. The farm comprises about 137 acres.

Those who have saved the homestead of Lincoln from the ownership of those who might have exploited it for commercial purposes have also saved the log cabin in which he was born, and have inclosed

it in the memorial hall, which will forever preserve it from decay. They have also cleared the farm from brush and undergrowth, have rebuilt boundary fences, have made a beautiful park immediately around the memorial hall, and have endowed the farm with a fund sufficient to maintain it. Having done all this they feel that they have fulfilled their undertaking, and now suggest that the Nation take it over as a gift and see to it that Lincoln's birthplace is preserved for all future generations.

Already thousands of people, from all over the country, visit the place every year. It is anticipated that future years will see this number become multiplied over and over.

The property has an income of more than \$2,000 per annum from the endowment fund alone and is self-sustaining.

The present holders of the fee-simple title have executed a deed of conveyance in fee to the United States, also an assignment of the endowment fund, both of which instruments are now held by the Secretary of War, pending the passage of this act.

The House passed the bill by a unanimous vote. The committee earnestly recommends that the same action be taken by the Senate.

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